

## Sermon #2: Long Awaited

07 Dec 2025

### BREAKING THE ICE

- Share a time when you received news that completely changed your plans. How did you respond?

### UNDERSTANDING THE TRUTH

*Read the Passage (Matthew 1:18-25)*

Read Mt 1:18-25

1. Take some time to consider the situation Joseph found himself in amongst this unique conception of Jesus (vs 18) What must it have been like for Joseph to find out that the woman he was engaged to was pregnant?
2. Consider how Joseph was going to handle it before he fully understood (vs 2). What does this tell you about him as a person?
3. What does God reveal to Joseph about this pregnancy (vs 3)?
4. What is the baby supposed to be named and what has He come to do (vs 4) (Note: Look up what Jesus' name means. Use Google or any search engine)
5. How should Matthew's purpose for why Jesus' came impact us as followers of Jesus?
6. How easily would you have been able to receive such knowledge and trust it?
7. What does Matthew say is the reason all this took place (vs 22-23; See Isaiah 7:14 for prophetic reference)?
8. How does Joseph's response reveal his character and faith (vs 24)?

### SEEING JESUS CHRIST

*Joseph heard truth from His heavenly Father that didn't make sense & was difficult to believe: He should marry a woman pregnant through miraculous and holy means. However, Jesus' heard truth from His Father that made even less sense in this world; He would have to marry an unfaithful Bride that was pregnant from its immorality with the world. Joseph stood to benefit from his brides pregnancy, as her child would bring forgiveness of sins. Jesus stood to suffer from His Brides "pregnancy" from the world because He would bear the penalty of her sins.*

- **How does Jesus' faithful trust in midst of infinite injustice move you to trust God in midst of your difficult circumstances?**

### **MAKING IT MATTER**

1. Share one area in your life right now in which you feel significant uncertainty. How might God be calling you to trust His presence in midst of this?
2. As a group, say together the following statement of truth.  
"I don't fully understand my situation, nor why it is happening. But, I know that God is with me because His name is Immanuel, which means "God with us".
3. How can knowing God is with you free you from your circumstances driving your joy?
4. As a Christian, you carry the presence of God within you. Whom in your life could you "be with" this week that needs God's presence in their situation?

### **PRAYING FOR GOD'S POWER**

"This is the confidence we have before him: If we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have what we have asked of him." 1 John 5:14-15

When we pray according to God's will it engages the power and guidance of God to bring about our transformation. If we apply these things in our own strength, then it is just legalistic obedience. But, when we humbly ask God to change us and empower us according to His will and by His Spirit, it becomes transformational AND it glorifies God.

1. Ask people to share one key, specific application from today's lesson that they want God to bring about in their life. Then take time to pray for each other in these areas.